

Message Text

SECRET

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61

ORIGIN EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 USIA-15 PRS-01 NIC-01

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EA/IMS:WGRANT

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R 091958Z AUG 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMCONSUL MEDAN

AMCONSUL SURABAYA

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

S E C R E T STATE 157435

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINR, ID, VN

SUBJ: GOI APPROVAL OF NVN AMBASSADOR

REF: JAKARTA 9256

1. REGRET ALMOST NO RECENT BIO DATA ON HOA AVAILABLE.
FOLLOWING, DATED MAY, 1970 MAY BE OF SOME USE.

QUOTE NGUYEN HOA HAS BEEN CONSUL GENERAL IN INDIA
SINCE JANUARY 1965. HE WAS APPOINTED TO THE CONCURRENT
POST OF CONSUL GENERAL IN CEYLON IN DECEMBER 1966. THE
NORTH VIETNAMESE MISSION IN CEYLON HAD BEEN CLOSED
SINCE AUGUST OF THAT YEAR, POSSIBLY AS A RESULT OF
PRESSURE FROM THE WESTERN-ORIENTED CEYLONese UNITED
NATIONAL PARTY, WHICH WAS IN POWER FROM MARCH 1965 TO
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MAY 1970.

HOA IS AN ACTIVE PROPAGANDIST IN INDIA AND HAS RECEIVED AT LEAST ONE WARNING FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA CONCERNING HIS ACTIVITIES. IN NOVEMBER 1966 HE WAS SUMMONED TO THE INDIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY AND INFORMED THAT HE HAD EXCEEDED HIS DIPLOMATIC RESPONSIBILITY IN DISTRIBUTING TO SOME INDIAN INSTITUTIONS THE FINDINGS OF THE NORTH VIETNAMESE COMMISSION ON WAR CRIMES IN VIETNAM.

AMERICAN OFFICIALS IN INDIA DESCRIBE HOA AS A CAUTIOUS DIPLOMAT WHOSE PUBLIC STATEMENTS NEVER VARY FROM THE HANOI PARTY LINE. HIS CONTENTION THAT THE WAR IN VIETNAM IS NOT A SUBJECT FOR DISCUSSION AT THE UNITED NATIONS DID NOT DETER HIM FROM MEETING WITH UN SECRETARY GENERAL U THANT IN INDIA IN FEBRUARY 1968. HOA WOULD NOT COMMENT ON THE SUBJECT OF THE MEETING, BUT IN KEEPING WITH HIS CAUTIOUS NATURE HE APPARENTLY RELAYED THANT'S QUESTIONS TO HANOI. SHORTLY THEREAFTER, THE SECRETARY GENERAL RECEIVED A REPLY FROM THE NORTH VIETNAMESE DELEGATE GENERAL IN PARIS, MAI VAN BO.

HOA HAS RETURNED TO HANOI FOR CONSULTATIONS AT LEAST FOUR TIMES SINCE HIS ARRIVAL IN INDIA: APRIL 1966, MID-1967, NOVEMBER 1968 AND MAY 1969.

EARLY LIFE AND CAREER:

LITTLE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE ON NGUYEN HOA'S BACKGROUND. HE WAS BORN IN EITHER CENTRAL OR SOUTH VIETNAM IN JANUARY 1924. A USUALLY RELIABLE SOURCE STATED THAT HOA HAS A NAVAL BACKGROUND AND THAT HE FOUGHT AGAINST THE FRENCH. HE WAS CHARGE D'AFFAIRES OF THE NORTH VIETNAMESE EMBASSY IN MONGOLIA FROM FEBRUARY 1960 UNTIL THE ARRIVAL OF AMBASSADOR DINH VAN DUC IN MARCH 1961, WHEN HOA BECAME FIRST SECRETARY.

PERSONAL DATA:

HOA HAS BEEN DESCRIBED AS SOFT-SPOKEN, SINCERE AND SECRET

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GENTLE MANNERED. HE DOES NOT PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY IN NEW DELHI DIPLOMATIC LIFE AND LIMITS MOST OF HIS ACTIVITIES TO OFFICIAL FUNCTIONS OF OTHER COMMUNIST EMBASSIES. HE IS MARRIED; HIS WIFE (A SCHOOLTEACHER) AND THEIR SEVEN CHILDREN ARE IN NORTH VIETNAM. HOA SPEAKS POOR ENGLISH. UNQUOTE ROGERS

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NNN

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